

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method of determining impulse responses of a medium (2) in relation to the transmission of waves between different points ( $T_1-T_N$ ), method comprising:

(a) at least one step of emission in the course of which waves are emitted into the medium (2) by generating signals  $e_i(t)$  on the basis of a number N of emission points ( $T_1-T_N$ ) belonging to the medium, where N is an integer at least equal to 2 and i is an index lying between 1 and N which designates one of said N emission points,

(b) at least one step of reception in the course of which signals  $r_j(t)$  are picked up from said waves after transmission in said medium, at a number M of reception points ( $T_1-T_N$ ) belonging to the medium, where M is a non-zero natural integer and j is an index lying between 1 and M which designates one of said M reception points,

(c) and at least one step of determination of said impulse responses  $h_{ij}(t)$  between each emission point i and each reception point j on the basis of the signals emitted  $e_i(t)$  and picked up  $r_j(t)$ ,

~~characterized in that in wherein during the course of step (a), said N emission points ( $T_1-T_N$ ) are made to simultaneously emit the signals  $e_i(t)$ , these signals  $e_i(t)$  having a duration T and each being a sum of n substantially monochromatic elementary signals, of like amplitude and of respective frequencies  $f_{0,i}+k.\delta f$ , where  $f_{0,i}$  is a predetermined eigenfrequency at the point i, k is an integer lying between 0 and n, n is an integer at least equal to 2 and  $\delta f$  is a predetermined frequency interval, the respective eigenfrequencies  $f_{0,i}$  at the various points i being distinct and lying in a frequency band of width  $\delta f$ ,~~

and ~~in that in wherein during~~ the course of step (c), each impulse response  $h_{ij}(t)$  is calculated on the basis of a signal of correlation between the signal  $e_i(t)$  emitted at the point  $i$  and the signal  $r_j(t)$  picked up at the point  $j$ .

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, in which the respective eigenfrequencies  $f_{0,i}$  at the various points  $i$  are separated pairwise by an offset  $\delta f/N$ .
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, in which, in the course of step (c), said correlation signal is windowed by means of a gate function  $\pi(t)$  of width  $1/\delta f$ .

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 3, in which, in the course of step (c), the impulse responses  $h_{ij}(t)$  are determined through the formula:

$$h_{ij}(t) = \Pi(t) \cdot \int e_i(\theta - t) \cdot r_j(\theta) d\theta.$$

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~claim 1 any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the waves transmitted in the medium between the emission points and the reception points are acoustic waves.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~claim 1 any one of the preceding claims~~, in which, in the course of step (a), the medium where the waves are emitted is reverberant.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~claim 1 any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the frequency interval  $\delta f$  is less than or equal to  $1/\tau$ , where  $\tau$  is the temporal dispersion of the medium.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 7, in which the frequency interval  $\delta f$  is substantially equal to  $1/\tau$ , where  $\tau$  is the temporal dispersion of the medium.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the duration T is at least equal to  $N/\delta f$ .

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the duration T is at least equal to  $N.\tau$ , where  $\tau$  is the temporal dispersion of the medium.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the elementary signals exhibit random phases.

12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the waves are emitted with a certain passband, the frequencies  $f_0 i$  comprise a minimum frequency  $f_0$  and the number n is determined so that the frequency band lying between  $f_0$  and  $f_0 + [(n+1).\delta f]$  substantially overlaps said passband.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, in which the reception points are coincident with the emission points ( $T_1-T_N$ ).